# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# POWER
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:686
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2005
DEFICIENCY IN POWER GENERATION CAPACITY
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

(a) whether it has came to the notice of the Government that the balance between thermal and hydro power generation has tilted against hydro-electricity in the previous years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any difference in per unit power generation based on various sources viz. Hydro, Gas, Coal, Atomic power and other sources of power generation;

(d) if so, the comparative details thereof;

(e) whether there is a vast potential of hydro power generation in the river linking scheme of the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER ( SHRI P.M. SAYEED )

(a) & (b) : Hydro power has experienced a steady rise from 508 MW in 1947 to 30135 MW now (as on 1.02.2005). The share of hydro power in the total installed capacity rose up to 50.62% in 1963 but thereafter experienced a steady decline and at the beginning of the X Plan it stood at 25.40%. Since then it has marginally improved and at present accounts for 26.65% of the total capacity.

The National Electricity Policy envisages the full development of the feasible hydro power potential of the country.

(c) & (d) : Yes, Sir. In the case of hydro power, there is no fuel cost whereas for thermal stations based on coal and gas as well as nuclear, there is a cost of fuel required for generation. Further, the capital cost also varies for different categories of projects. The average tariff for the year 2003-04 in the case of operating projects works out to be Rs.1.47/Kwh for thermal projects of NTPC, Rs.1.03/Kwh in case of hydro projects of NHPC. In case of Atomic power generation, the current average tariff is Rs.2.33/kwh.

(e) & (f) : Ministry of Water Resources and Central Water Commission have formulated the National Perspective Plan for Inter Linking of Rivers. Under the Plan, power generation potential is estimated at 34,000 MW.